

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.  
Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected.

**Claim Rejection-35 U.S.C. §102**

In the final Office Action mailed on April 25, 2007, claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being unpatentable over **Tsuboi** (USP 6,263,380, previously cited). For the reasons set forth in detail below, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Initially, it is noted that claim 1 has been amended to recite "...and said parent device has a means for issuing one-time measured value save command to said plural measurement electronic device units including the own unit,..." Support for this change is provided, e.g., on page 19, lines 4-8 of the application specification.

The patentability arguments presented in the Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 filed on January 22, 2007 are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

The rationale supporting the rejection of claims 1-25 in the final Office Action mailed April 25, 2007 is basically the same as the previous Office Action mailed September 20, 2006. In fact, the final Office Action appears to be exactly the same as the previous Office Action, except for the ***Response to Arguments*** section set forth in Item 4, pages 5 and 6.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's ***Response to Arguments*** regarding independent claim 1 does not address all of the patentability arguments regarding independent claim 1 presented in the Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 filed on January 22, 2007. It is also

noted that the final Office Action does not address the patentability arguments regarding the dependent claims.

In the Amendment filed on January 22, 2007, it was argued that the **Tsuboi** reference does not disclose or suggest the claimed feature “*said parent device has a means for issuing a measured value save command to said plural measurement electronic device units including the own unit, in response to a request from the external device, to thereby cause said plural measurement electronic device units to simultaneously save measured values by the respective detectors in the memories.*”

In summary, the Examiner’s position, as articulated in the **Response to Arguments**, appears to be that the “transmission identifying END signal,” which informs of the completion of automatic address setting, corresponds to the claimed “*measured value save command*” because, after the automatic address setting is completed, “measurement data can be collected and stored.” The Examiner cites col. 13, lines 53-57; col. 14, lines 13-19 and lines 20-26, although address setting is also described in detail in col. 10, line 55 – col. 11, line 28 of **Tsuboi**.

The transmission-identifying END signal informing completion of address setting is apparently sent to the computer 60 from all relaying units 20M, 20S, 40S prior to performing measurement (see col. 12, lines 24-29). However, the transmission-identifying END signal is not sent from a parent device (i.e., the master unit 20M) to plural measurement electronic device units in response to a request from an external device (i.e., the computer 60). Thus, **Tsuboi** does not disclose or suggest “*said parent device has a means for issuing one time measured value save*

*command to said plural measurement electronic device units including the own unit, in response to a request from the external device, ...”*

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the transmission-identifying END signal does not “*cause said plural measurement electronic device units to simultaneously save measured values by the respective detectors in the memories*”. Instead, as described in col. 12, lines 1-24, measurement and transmission of data to the computer 60 is described as occurring sequentially (i.e., in sequence, see col. 12, lines 20-23). **Tsuboi** is silent with respect to *simultaneously saving measured values by the respective detectors in memories in response to a one-time measured value save command from a parent device.*

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, and claims 2-20 which depend therefrom, patentably distinguish over the cited prior art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under §102 are respectfully requested.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

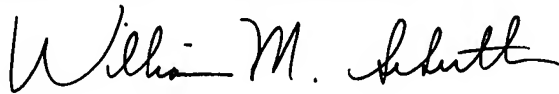
Application No. 10/532,810  
Art Unit: 2857

Submission of Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114  
Attorney Docket No.: 052503

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Schertler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being the most prominent.

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